

File PM 764

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21st January, 1980
JHB/LH/21469

REC'D JAN 28 1980

For the attention of Susan A Hutcheson

Dear Sirs,

European Patent Application 78 30 0040.9
Your Ref: PM 764 - Our File: 21469

With reference to your letter of 20th November 1979 and following our discussion on 10th January and your telex message of 17th January, we have completed and filed the amendment to this application, and copies are duly enclosed.

Pages 3 and 4 of the specification and page 1 of the claims have been retyped in their amended form. Amendments on the other altered pages have been carried out by filing fresh copies of the original pages with the desired amendments in manuscript. The Guidelines are not clear as to whether this is acceptable or not, and we have not yet had any second actions from the EPO to tell us. If it is acceptable, however, it is a particularly simple way of making minor amendments.

In the response we have submitted argument in favour of a claim to 2-methylnicotine in a pure condition, and have restricted the broad claim only by the specific exclusion of this compound. If the Examiner was prepared to accept a claim to 2-ethylnicotine as being sufficiently novel to be patentable, then we believe he should accept the original claim 1 subject to a specific exclusion.

You will see how we have dealt with the remaining objections. We do not foresee any difficulty in making the correction instructed in your telex.

Our debit note is enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

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